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09/738,433	12/15/2000	Richard A. Baker	SAA-35-1	9556

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EXAMINER
VU, THONG H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2142	

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

1.   Claims 1-46 are pending. Claims 47-48 are cancelled.

2.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/31/06

has been entered.

Specification

3.   The amendment filed 3/31/06 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it

introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment

shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material

which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows:

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the "Abstract" portion of the application as follows:

A method and interface module for communicating messages with a remote location and
to provide access to an at least one intelligent electronic device (IED) operably connected to a
communication network. The interface module is comprised of a central processing unit and an
operating system operating the central processing unit. A network interface is operably
connected with the communication network. A protocol task processes communication on the
network according to first and second [[a]] protocol stacks, wherein messages are assigned to
either the first or second protocol stack. Messages assigned to the first protocol stack have a
higher priority than messages assigned to the second protocol stack. A set of application tasks
communicates with the protocol task for responding to an incoming message from the
communication network and initiating an outgoing message to the communication network. An
interconnection bus with an interface driver is operably connected with the at least one IED.

On page 3 of the application, please amend paragraph 2 as follows:

Another object of the invention of the invention is directed to an interface module for communicating messages with a remote location and toprovide access to an at least one intelligent electronic device (lED) operably connected to a communication network. The interface module is comprised of a central processing unit and operating system operating the central processing unit. A network interface is operably connected with the communications network. A protocol task processes communication on the network according to <u>first and second</u> [[a]] protocol stacks, <u>wherein messages are assigned to either the first or second protocol stack</u>. Messages assigned to the first protocol stack have a higher priority than messages assigned to the second protocol stack. A set of application tasks communicates with the protocol task for.

Drawings

The informal drawings are not of sufficient quality to permit examination. Accordingly, replacement drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to this Office action. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action.

Applicant is given a TWO MONTH time period to submit new drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.81. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). Failure to timely submit replacement drawing sheets will result in ABANDONMENT of the application.

i.e.: the new drawing filed 3/31/06 adds the new subject matter: the second TCP/IP stack 11 (Fig 2 and Fig 4).

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

overKaranam et al [Karanam 6,266,713 B1] in view of Rakavy et al [Rakavy 6,317,789

B1].

4.   As per claim 30, Karanam discloses A control system for allowing a user access

at a remote location through a communication network, to information and data

contained in an electrical network control system, the control system comprising:

means for coupling the remote location to the communication network, the

coupling means including a Web browser for interacting with the communication

network [Karanam, a remote node and Internet gateway, col 4 lines 60-67];

a Web site associated with the electrical network control system and accessible

through the communication network [Karanam, Internet gateway 36, Fig 1];

means for linking the electrical network control system to the Web site, the

linking means including an interface module for coupling the at least one electrical

network control system IED to the communication network [Karanam, module 108

provides for viewing, organizing and analyzing unusual behavior in a power system, col

5 lines 1-64, Fig 3];

means for enabling transfer of a message between the remote location and the

electrical network control system [Karanam, download message, col 6 lines 1-17]; and

means for processing the message received from the remote location over the

communication network, the means for processing the message comprising a control

task [Karanam, control device 24, col 3 lines 62], means for receiving a message;

means for accessing the at least one electrical network control system IED for

the message [Karanam, message, col 6 lines 1-17]; and,

means for sending a response to the remote location through the communication

network using an industrial communication standard Modbus over TCP/IP, wherein the

control task accepts a connection, parses a Modbus message, and calls an operation

system to process the Modbus message [Karanam, Modbus and Ethernet TCP/IP, Fig

2, col 4 lines 14-59].

Karaname also taught the automatically processes [Karanam, col 5 lines 33,51].

However Karanam does not explicitly detail

an electrical network control system having an at least one intelligent electronic

device (IED)

In the same endeavor, Rakavy discloses a method and apparatus for select

message and other information from a computer network including remote network,

FTP, Internet, TCP/IP, matching high priority categories and platform capabilities are

selected for downloading [Rakavy, col 10 lines 5-17] by using an intelligent software

agent or TCP/IP Polite agent [Rakavy, col 13 lines 12-30]

Therefore it would have been obvious to an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the intelligent software agent as taught by Rakavy into the Karanam's apparatus in order to utilize the control over Internet.

Doing so would provide a better interaction with user, especially in a power management control system and dynamic Data exchange server [Karanam, col 1 lines 10].

5.   As per claim 31, Karanam-Rakavy disclose the control task includes means for processing the message received from the remote location over the communication network [Karanam, control devices 24, a remote node 38, Fig 1]; accessing data on the at least one IED; and, sending back a response [Karanam, transaction between server and device, col 12 lines 55].

6.   As per claim 32 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the control task further includes means for initiating the message allowing the IED to communicate with the remote location over the communication network [Karanam, control devices 24, a remote node 38, Fig 1].

7.   As per claim 9 Karanam-Rakavy disclose An interface module for communicating messages with a remote location and to provide access to an at least one intelligent electronic device (IED) operably connected to a communication network, the interface module comprising:

a central processing unit; an operating system operating the central

processing unit; a network interface for communicating with the communication network

[Karanam, a host computer 12, Ethernet TCP/IP protocol, Fig 1];

a protocol stack for managing the communication on the network; a protocol

task for processing the communication according to the protocol stack [Karanam,

Ethernet gateway 60 provides connection between Ethernet TCP/IP and Modbus

networks, Fig 2]; and,

a set of application tasks, comprising a control task and communicating with

the protocol task for responding to an incoming message from the communication

network and initiating an outgoing message to the communication network using an

industrial communication standard Modbus over TCP/IP, wherein the control task

accepts a connection, parses a Modbus message, and calls the operation system to

process the Modbus message [Karanam, Modbus and TCP/IP, col 4 lines 14-60].

8.   Claims 10-11 contain the identical limitations set forth in claims 31-32. Therefore

claims 10-11 are rejected for the same rationale set forth in claims 31-32.

9.   As per claim 22 Karanam-Rakavy disclose A control system for allowing a user

access at a remote location through a communication network, to information and data

contained in an electrical network control system having an at least one intelligent

electronic device (IED) [Rakavy, an intelligent software agent or TCP/IP Polite agent, col

13 lines 12-30], the control system comprising:

means for coupling the remote location to the communication network, the

coupling means including a Web browser for interacting with the communication

network [Karanam, a remote node and Internet gateway, col 4 lines 60-67];

a Web site [Rakavy, web sites, col1 lines 36-50] associated with the electrical

network control system and accessible through the communication network [Karanam, a

remote node and Internet gateway, col 4 lines 60-67];

means for linking the electrical network control system to the Web site, the

linking means including an interface module for coupling the at least one IED to the

communication network [Karanam, module 108 provides for viewing, organizing and

analyzing unusual behavior in a power system, col 5 lines 1-64, Fig 3];

first and second protocol stacks for enabling transfer of a message between the

remote location and the electrical network control system, wherein the message is

assigned to one of the first and second protocol stack according to a type of the

message [Karanam, Modbus and Ethernet TCP/IP, Fig 2, col 4 lines 14-59]; and,

means for processing the message received from the remote location over the

communication network wherein a message assigned to the first protocol stack is

processed before has a higher priority than a message assigned to the second protocol

stack, the means for processing the message comprising means for receiving a

message [Rakavy, matching the user's high priority categories, col 10 lines 5-17];

means for accessing the at least one IED for the message [Rakavy, an intelligent

software agent or TCP/IP Polite agent, col 13 lines 12-30]; and, means for sending a

response to the remote location through the communication network [Rakavy, the user's

response to advertisements on web sites, col 3 lines 52-59].

10.   As per claim 23 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the communication network is a

worldwide Internet network using an Internet Protocol (IP) [Rakavy, an intelligent

software agent or TCP/IP Polite agent, col 13 lines 12-30].

11.   As per claim 24 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the interface module operates as a

Web site on the Internet, the interface module having a global IP address [Rakavy, web

sites, col 3 lines 52-59].

12.   As per claim 25 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the interface module comprises a

network driver for receiving the message from the Web browser on the Internet and

for sending a response back to the Web browser [Rakavy, web site, col 3 lines 52-59].

13.   As per claim 26 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the message transfer enabling means

comprises a protocol task using a Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) [Rakavy,

TCP/IP Polite agent, col 13 lines 12-30].

14.   As per claim 27 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the protocol task implements a dual

TCP stack [Rakavy, TCP/IP stack, col 7 lines 52].

15.   As per claim 28 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the dual TCP stack comprises one

stack capable of handling TCP/IP messages with a higher priority than the other stack

[Rakavy, matching the user's high priority categories, col 10 lines 5-17].

16.   As per claim 29 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the message processing means

comprises a control task for processing a message exchange over the communication

network   between a remote application and the at least one IED using the industrial

communication standard Modbus over TCP/IP [Karanam, Modbus and Ethernet TCP/IP,

Fig 2, col 4 lines 14-59].

17.   As per claim 33 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the data message processing means

includes a FTP server task for processing a File Transfer Protocol (FTP) [Rakavy, FTP,

col 2 lines 35-40].

18.   As per claim 34 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the FTP server task accepts a

connection; parses an FTP message; and, calls the operating system to process the

FTP message [Rakavy, FTP, col 2 lines 35-40].

19.   As per claim 35 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the FTP message allows a user at

the remote location to download a file through the Internet for updating the operating

software within the at least one IED associated with the electrical network control

system [Rakavy, FTP, col 2 lines 35-40].

20.   As per claim 36 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the FTP message allows a user at the remote location to upload through the Internet a file for obtaining data records from the at least one IED associated with the electrical network control system [Rakavy, FTP, col 2 lines 35-40].

21.   As per claim 37 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the data message processing means includes a HTTP server task for processing a Hypertext Transport Protocol (HTTP) to provide access to the remote Web browser [Rakavy, web sites, col 3 lines 52-59].

22.   As per claim 38 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the HTTP task accepts a connection; parses an HTTP message; and, calls the operating system to process the HTTP message [Rakavy, web sites, col 3 lines 52-59].

23.   As per claim 39 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the HTTP message allows a user at the remote location to view the electrical network control system from a browser connected to the Internet [Rakavy, web sites, col 3 lines 52-59].

24.   As per claim 40 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the HTTP message allows a user at the remote location to write to the electrical network control system from a browser connected to the Internet [Karanam, read/write, col 6 lines 40].

25.   As per claim 41 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the HTTP message allows a user at

the remote location to view IED data from a browser connected to the Internet

[Karanam, viewing, col 5 lines 25].

26.   As per claim 42 Karanam-Rakavy disclose the HTTP message allows a user at

the remote location to write IED data from a browser connected to the Internet

[Karanam, read/write, col 6 lines 40].

27.   As per claim 43 Karanam-Rakavy disclose a Java message allows a user at

the remote location to view IED data from a browser connected to the Internet

[Karanam, viewing, col 5 lines 25].

28.   As per claim 44 Karanam-Rakavy disclose a Java message allows a user at the

remote location to write IED data from a browser connected to the Internet [Karanam,

read/write, col 6 lines 40].

29.   As per claim 45 Karanam-Rakavy disclose an ActiveX message allows a user at

the remote location to view IED data from a browser connected to the Internet

[Karanam, viewing, col 5 lines 25].

30.   As per claim 46 Karanam-Rakavy disclose an ActiveX message allows a user at

the remote location to write IED data from a browser connected to the Internet

[Karanam, read/write, col 6 lines 40].

31.   Claims 1-21 contain the identical limitations set forth in claims 22-46. Therefore

claims 1-21 are rejected for the same rationale set forth in claims 22-46.

        Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to Thong H. Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-3904. The
examiner can normally be reached on 6:00-3:30.
        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on 571-272-3868. The fax phone number for the
organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
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